Sunday, December 6, 2009 ★★ 21 sections / Vol. 24 / No. 361 P20

▪ **Pushy starlet** tries to mow down rival ENTERTAINMENT ▪ **How Chet** loved his wife Margie back to life ▪ Quickie tour of National Museum for 'balikbayan' ▪ The power of the pink vote SUNDAY LIFESTYLE ▪ **Psychological impact** continues to hound Typhoon Ondoy's victims ▪ This mother was severely injured when 'Pepeng' crushed her house but she struggled to keep her daughter company through her voice SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE

PHILIPPINE Sunday INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

▪ **Pacman, Mayweather** agree on purse: $25M each SPORTS ▪ **Blast kills** 1 near Jolo police station ACROSS ▪ **US star** of Italy's sensational sex murder convicted, gets 26 years in jail WORLD

SC: No basis for martial law

By Norman Bordadora

THE SUPREME COURT DISPUTED the government's contention that the court system in Maguindanao was no longer functioning, one of the stated reasons for declaring martial law in the Central Mindanao province.

Lawyers, lawmakers, judges, Church leaders and the Commission on Human Rights also disputed whether the constitutional basis for declaring martial law—invasion or rebellion—was present in the Maguindanao situation.

Midas Marquez, the high court's deputy administrator and spokesperson, said the cases involving the Maguindanao massacre that were filed before the Cotabato courts were moving forward.

He said it was the search warrants issued by the Kidapawan Regional Trial Court that made possible the police raids

SC/NO BASIS A17



FULL FORCE An armored vehicle stands in front of the provincial capitol in Shariff Aguak, Maguindanao, on Saturday. Some 4,000 troops and a dozen military tanks are now deployed in Maguindanao where martial law was imposed on Friday night purportedly to quell a rebellion among supporters of the powerful Ampatuan clan and to oversee the security of civilians in the province. AFP

Senators oppose '1959'

They question motives of GMA's martial law proclamation



A CLASS OF HIS OWN Lt. Gen. Raymundo Ferrer during a press briefing inside the provincial capitol in Shariff Aguak.

By Michael Lim Ubac and Leila B. Salaverria

MOST OF THE SENATORS WANT TO SCRAP IT BUT MAjority of congressmen are all for it.

The Senate and the House of Representatives will hold a special joint session at 4 p.m. on Tuesday to address President Macapagal-Arroyo's imposition of martial law in Maguindanao.

By that time, martial law in the province where the country's worst election-related violence occurred on Nov. 23 would have been in effect for close to four days, and a number of senators yesterday said the joint session should be held earlier.

Senators Benigno Aquino III, Alan Peter Cayetano, Francis Escudero, Panfilo Lacson, Loren Legarda, Jamby Madrigal and Francis Pangilinan separately questioned the President's action which, Malacañang had said, was needed to quell a "rebellion in the offing" by forces loyal to the powerful Arroyo ally, the Ampatuan clan.

In a press conference late yesterday afternoon, Senators Aquino and Mar Roxas, the Liberal Party's presidential and vice presidential candidates in 2010, said they were prepared to challenge the declaration of martial law before the Supreme Court.

Aquino said that while both chambers of Congress were mandated by law to provide a check and balance to the executive branch's declaration, another option would be to take the issue to the high court.

"Going to the Supreme Court is another avenue to question the factual basis of the imposition. Yes, we are for the lifting of martial law," he told reporters.

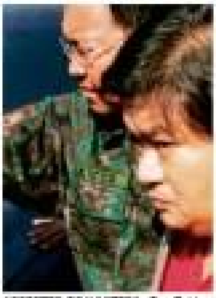
Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. said Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile and Speaker Prospero Nograles had decided on the date of the special joint session.

"That's what Enrile told me over the phone—his agreement with Nograles," Pimentel said, quickly adding: "If I had my way, I would rather that we meet today (Saturday) or tomorrow, or Monday at the latest. But we'll see [how it goes]."

A text message sent by Pimentel to the other five members of the Senate minority bloc read: "Important urgent notice: Joint session with House at the Batasan 4 p.m. Tuesday re: martial law in Maguindanao. As opposition group we should all be there."

"I believe we ought to meet much earlier," Pangilinan told the Inquirer on the phone. He pointed out that the Constitution mandates Congress to

SENATORS/A17



ARRESTED OR INVITED? Gov. Zaldy Ampatuan of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) is escorted by a police officer upon arrival at the police headquarters in General Santos City on Saturday. AFP

Martial law administrator has a mind of his own

By Fe Zamora

MANY IN THE MILITARY AGREE THAT the new martial law administrator of Maguindanao, Lt. Gen. Raymundo Ferrer, could be a strong contender for the soon-to-be vacated post of Armed Forces chief of staff.

Except that Ferrer, who heads the Eastern Mindanao Command, has one glaring weakness.

He does not belong to President Macapagal-Arroyo's adopted class from the Philippine Military Academy, the well-entrenched Class of 1978.

The President is reportedly grooming her adopted classmate, Army Chief

MARTIAL A6

Troops swoop down on Maguindanao

By Jocelyn R. Uy, TJ Burgonio and Inquirer Mindanao

ABOUT 4,000 TROOPS AND A DOZEN MILITARY tanks have been fielded to Maguindanao, where martial law was imposed on Friday night purportedly to repress brewing unrest among supporters of the powerful Ampatuan clan and to oversee the security of civilians in the province.

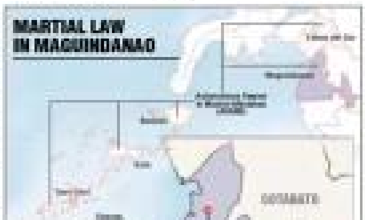
Lt. Col. Romeo Brawner Jr., spokesperson of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, yesterday said residents had nothing to fear about the full presence of the military in Maguindanao, particularly in Shariff Aguak, and in North Cotabato.

Brawner told the Inquirer by phone that it was those involved in the Nov. 23 massacre that claimed the lives of at least 57 people "who should be scared [because] we will arrest them."

According to Brawner, the declaration of martial law in Maguindanao created uncertainty and tension among residents but that things began to lighten up later in the day.

He also said that while Lt. Gen. Raymundo Ferrer had been appointed martial law commander, the latter would not assume any administrative functions in the local government.

TROOPS/A6



INQUIRER MAP

'24 Best Desserts' for Inquirer's 24 yummy years

By Vangie Baga-Reyes
Lifestyle

SWEETS HAVE A UNIVERSAL APPEAL. Even SM taipan Henry Sy couldn't resist checking out the lip-smacking desserts at Inquirer Lifestyle's "24 Best Desserts" held Friday night at the Atrium of the SM Mall of Asia, a partner in the first-ever dessert awards.

The awards night, a kick-off event to celebrate the Inquirer's 24th anniversary on Dec. 9, cast the spotlight on the crème de la crème of the pastry industry. About 24 desserts—from cakes,

24 BEST/A16

Real-life hero tells presidential bets: Serve with humility

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

REAL-LIFE HERO EFREN PEÑAflorida has this message to would-be heroes running for office: Public service is a public trust; it should be held sacred.

"With power comes responsibility. Service should be done in all humility, not just for oneself or for a few,

REAL-LIFE A6



1972: 'Smiling' rule turned into a monster

By Fernando del Mundo
Chief, 1 Trees

THERE WERE NO TANKS ON the streets of Manila during the predawn hours President Ferdinand Marcos sent his troops to carry out on Sept. 23, 1972, a still-secret proclamation of what he later claimed was a "smiling martial law."

It was so unlike the operation at sunrise Friday when troops in full combat gear descended on a warlord's mansion in Shariff Aguak, reporters in flak jackets and helmets behind them, to enforce a similar edict.

The men who carried out the Marcos decree had a cakewalk. They were so unobtrusive the only sign something was amiss was the copy of Proclamation No. 1081 they had plastered on the offices of media facilities shut down.

I had left the Manila bureau of United Press International just before midnight, after wrapping up the day's major event—the "ambush" of Defense Secretary Juan Ponce Enrile—and filing it to the UPI foreign desk in New York.

I had called my usual resident analyst and asked him what it meant.

And the reply was the stock answer at the time: Martial law.

The ambush was in fact the excuse given 24 hours later by Marcos for this extraordinary measure resorted to only for the second time in the nation's history. Much later, Enrile would admit that the event was stage-managed to justify the emergency.

In the last chapters of World War II, President Jose P. Laurel of the Japanese-created puppet Second Republic declared martial law on Sept. 21, 1944, exactly 28 years before the man he had acquitted on a technicality for the murder of his father's political enemy did.

Apparently, as I was leaving the UPI bureau, officers were

1972 A6

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Second FrontPage
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2009



DÉJÀ VU ALL OVER AGAIN

Cell phone 'per pulse' billing starts

JDV: China wants rich nations to pay for climate change

Rice farmers can help environment by cutting methane in fields—expert



Rustan's
Your Christmas Store
Top 10 Exciting & Playful
It's a Gotta Getta GUND Christmas for Kids!
Gotta Getta GUND
The World's Most Huggable
Rustan's Holiday Store Hours
Closed on January 1, 2010, Friday, New Year's Day
Rustan's Children's Christmas Registry



HOSPITAL FIRE

Another lawyer seeks Erap's disqualification

Police hunt 2 suspects in killing of 3 QC teens

'Cebu will give Gibo 1M votes'

Ebdane's party seeks new bet to back

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Judges who show gender sensitivity in court awarded



Martial law administrator has a mind of his own



Virtual exile

'Hello Garci'

Peace-building advocacies

Disgust for rebel soldiers

1972: 'Smiling' rule turned into a monster



Finally, the announcement

Superstitious

Bombing of Plaza Miranda

New Society Movement

Conjugal dictatorship

Citizen assemblies

Appeasing Washington

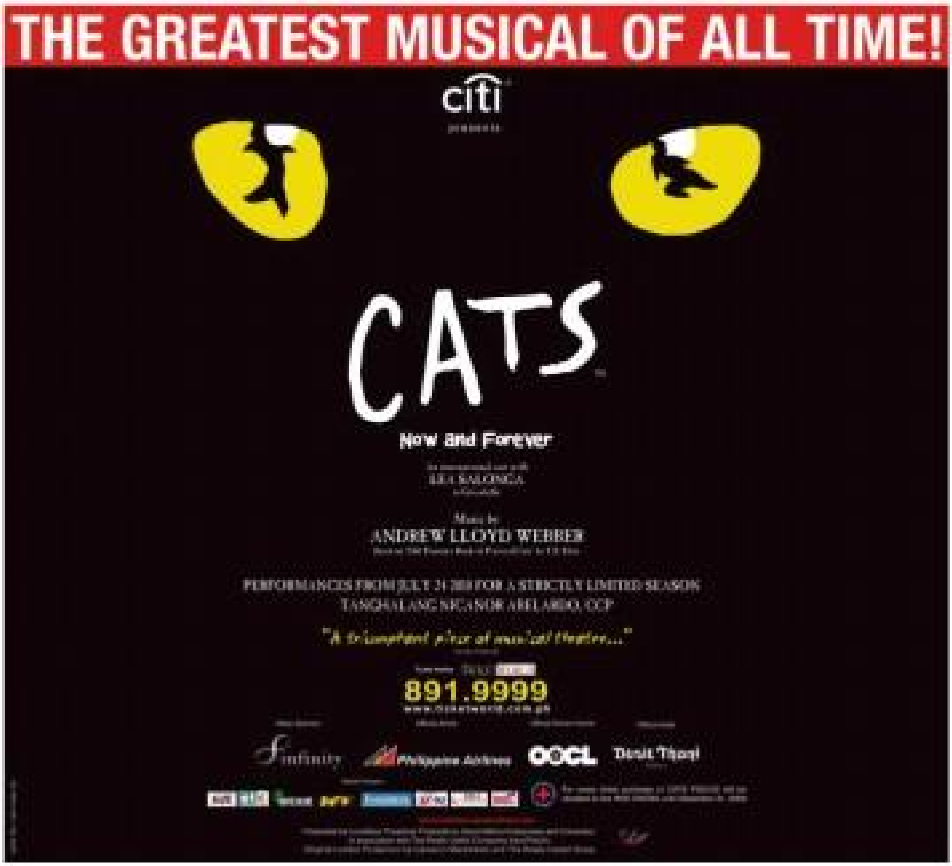
Court gives Cebu overpriced lampposts case a kick-start

[illegible]

NEA execs walk after prosecution flubs cases

[illegible]





Troops swoop down ...





Mixed feelings

Tearful Sajid

Massing of armed groups

Zaldy arrested?



Overreaction, says FVR

Ferrer takes over Maguindanao

No curfew

MILF: No official stand

Warning out on fake currency

MANILA CITY AND police officials yesterday warned the public against the proliferation of fake Philippine currency following the arrest of three men caught allegedly manufacturing counterfeit P500 and P1,000 bills.

[illegible]

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION

The last taboo

EDITORIAL

THE LAST TABOO OF THE NEWLY RESTORED democracy the Filipino people put in place in 1986 was broken Friday evening when President Macapagal-Arroyo signed a proclamation placing Maguindanao—except for MILF camps—under martial law. Previous presidents had considered themselves bound by a broad, post-Marcos consensus: the exercise of utmost discretion in wielding certain constitutional powers—like the power to declare martial law. For this reason, even in the face of coup attempts, President Cory Aquino conscientiously asked for emergency powers from Congress instead of arrogating them unto herself.

Ms Arroyo has been on a path of increasingly aggressive political and legal encroachments on the separation of powers (e.g., calibrated preemptive response, Executive Order 464 in September 2005, state of emergency in February 2006). At 9 p.m. last Friday, she finally crossed the last remaining line separating post-Edsa I from the means and methods of Ferdinand E. Marcos.

Under the Constitution, Congress ought to convene a joint session within 48 hours from the martial law proclamation to determine if such declaration is justified. Instead, Speaker Prospero Nograles—after saying earlier he thought the state of emergency in Maguindanao sufficed—declared that it would be difficult for the House of Representatives to muster a quorum; that even if it could, there would be widespread support for the President's move among legislators; and that finally, the earliest Congress could hold a joint session would be Tuesday after caucuses by each congressional chamber tomorrow. This first official reaction by a co-equal branch of the government is so muted as to be beyond meek and simply sycophantic, even though common sense (and statesmanship) should have led it to convene sooner than later.

The Executive Department's justifications range from the contradictory (a province caught up in a total breakdown of government institutions to a rebellion, or on the verge of rebellion, said Justice Agnes Devanadera in Saturday's press conference) to the disingenuous (government needed to undertake warrantless arrests, which sidesteps the question of why a state of emergency fortified by the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus wasn't enough. The President has declared the writ's suspension and martial law; Marcos allowed at least a year to pass between the former and the latter).

The spiraling in official circles betrayed, on one hand, the unwillingness of the President's allies to question her game plan and, on the other, how her critics feel stymied by the popularity of the martial law proclamation in a country exasperated by the stalemate between the Ampatuans and the national government.

In a sense, it doesn't matter that Congress drags its heels in convening a joint session to pass judgment on the President's action; or whether the Supreme Court—which can't resolve petitions questioning the basis for martial law in Maguindanao until Monday—does anything beyond going through the motions of oversight. The President has acted: the Armed Forces, police and the bureaucracy have obeyed. The Palace insists the public hails its decision; on the other hand, many voices condemn the President's action as rash, ill-considered and unjustified.

Meanwhile, government has taken to trumpeting its martial law as a "smiling one," remarkably free of untoward incidents, yet responsive to the public clamor for justice in Maguindanao.

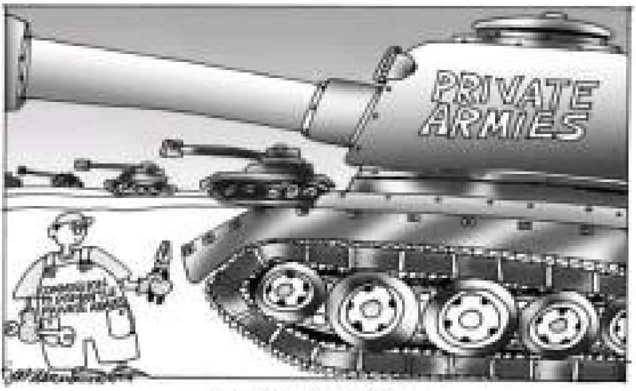
Few doubt that the ruling coalition in Congress has the numbers to endorse the President's declaration. But we must ask: Is the martial law proclamation justified? In Congress, it will not be enough for legislators to rubber-stamp the President's arguments. The public must be satisfied through the report, so as to judge the President and Congress. And while we believe the Supreme Court remains a bulwark against a possible "conspiracy" between the President and Congress, the public should consider the implications of the President breaking this last taboo from the days of the dictatorship.

Ms Arroyo could have invoked the Human Security Act; she could have suspended the writ; she could have taken other steps before going whole hog.

Is the proclamation then an attempt to play to the gallery, to put a lid on the mounting domestic and foreign criticism of her coddling the Ampatuans?

It does seem to recklessly put in danger our ongoing democratic project—one she has repeatedly tried to sterilize time and again.

[illegible]



My friend Leonie

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

[illegible]

Repentance, now

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

[illegible]

A great Filipino; Comelec dilemma

WITH DUE RESPECT

Artemio V. Panganiban



For the fallen

METHOD TO MADNESS

Patricia Evangelista



Ominous

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David



Shifting the Afghan 'Great Game'

WORLD VIEW

Shlomo Ben Ami



TALK of the TOWN

Editor: Jose V. Sarmiento Jr.

MAGUINDANAO MASSACRE

Political rivalry not 'rido'-driven

Clan wars emanating from political conflicts can be traced to the fact that local government posts have become lucrative sources of income through Internal Revenue Allotments and money derived from local collections

By Eduardo Climaco Tadem

TECHNICALLY, THE MAGUINDANAO massacre on Nov. 23 of members of the Mangudadatu clan, journalists accompanying them and other civilians by forces of the Ampatuans is not yet considered a rido (clan feud).

[illegible]

Former allies

[illegible]

New stage

[illegible]

Source of income

[illegible]



A BODY of one of the 57 victims of the massacre is retrieved from a pit dug by a backhoe bearing the name of Maguindanao Gov. Andal Ampatuan Sr.

Rules of engagement

[illegible]

Traditional conflict resolution

[illegible]

Clan feuds in Bangsamoroland

By Jamail A. Kamlian

[illegible]

Fellow Muslims

[illegible]

Social honor

[illegible]

Baseline data

[illegible]



ANDAL Ampatuan Jr., prime suspect in the massacre



ESMAEL Mangudadatu, whose wife was among those killed

Casualties

[illegible]

Recommendations

[illegible]

INQUIRER Mindanao

Poor grieve over murder of lawyer

By Jeffrey M. Tupas
Kidapawan City

THEIR TEARS HAD already wrenched her heart even before they could open their mouths to tell their stories about a missing son, a jailed husband, a tortured relative, a dead brother, a village cordoned by the military, houses burned, and a piece of land grabbed.

And they wailed the loudest as the casket of lawyer Concepcion "Connie" Jayme-Brizuela was slowly lowered to her grave in the afternoon of Nov. 28 in Barangay del Carmen in President Roxas town in North Cotabato.

"Who else will help us now?" a Manobo woman from Columbio town in Sultan Kudarat was overheard as saying in Cebuano.

One even questioned what seems to be the inevitable: "Is there still God?"

The throng of people, most of them farmers, from Columbio to the hinterlands of Arakan, the farthest town of North Cotabato, gathered at the cemetery to pay their last respects to Brizuela, their lawyer.

"It only proves that she was well-loved by the people who often ran to her for help every time their rights and peaceful lives in their small villages were threatened by outside forces," said lawyer Carlos Isagani Zarate.



MEMBERS of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines in Davao City hold a rally at the Freedom Park in the city to condemn the killing of, and seek justice for, two of their colleagues— Connie Jayme-Brizuela and Cynthia Oquendo-Ayon who were among 57 people murdered in Maguindanao.

"She was their lawyer. She stood for them. She was their defender ... Now, they mourn her death," Zarate said.

Tales of oppression

But no one could tell if Brizuela ever cried over their tales of oppression. Close friends only remembered an image of a composed and strong woman who did not even show a hint of fear even when she was jailed over a libel suit filed against her and three others.

She was fearless, they said, and she was always ready to give free legal assistance—in exchange for only a few eggs or native chicken—to farmers, women, or "lumad" (indigenous people) who are against powerful people with guns and political influence.

Italian priest Peter Geremia, who is Brizuela's friend, said victims of human rights violations had pinned their hopes on the murdered lawyer.

"Connie was always there for them, ready to listen to the poor. She was tireless and always willing to listen and help and fight for them. But now, she herself is a victim of human rights violation that's beyond description," Geremia said.

Brizuela and her colleague, Cynthia Oquendo, and at least 30 journalists joined the convoy of Maguindanao gubernatorial aspirant Esmael Mangudadatu to the Commission on Elections office in Shariff Aguak town on Nov. 23. They were to file Mangudadatu's certificate of candidacy for governor of Maguindanao.

They never made it to their destination. Stopped in Barangay Salman in Ampatuan town, they were mowed down by some 100 men believed to be led by Mayor Andal Ampatuan Jr. of Datu Unsay town.

Shocking monstrosity

"They were confident that they will not be touched because they were women and because they were lawyers. What was more shocking was the extent of monstrosity of the killers. It was almost unbelievable for us that there are still people who could become monsters because of their greed for power or money," Geremia said.

Brizuela's death, he said, was a tragedy for those who were relying on her for legal help.

"There are only a few now who work for social justice; only a few who are willing to take the risk of helping and protecting the poor. Only a few who stand against the oppressor ... and now, one of the few has fallen," the priest said.

Brizuela's mother, Irene, said her daughter's commitment was unquestionable.

"She did not mind it if she got no monetary exchange from all the cases that she was handling. I felt her happiness every time she was able to extend what she could to the poor. She did not mind it if she only received eggs or chicken or a bunch of bananas from her clients," Irene said.

"We [family] are not the only people she left. She left many villages. Many people ... a lot of them," she added.

Family strength

And these people, according to her brother Manuel Jayme, are one of the sources of the family's strength now.

"The killers may have a throng of savage killers with them when they killed my sister and the other victims of the Ampatuan massacre, but we have hundreds and hundreds of people who are willing to be on our side in our fight for justice. These people are our source of strength," he said.

Lawyers' groups have condemned the death of their colleagues and the other massacre victims.

On Nov. 27, hundreds of members of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines, Union of Peoples Lawyers for Mindanao (UPLM), and the Free Legal Assistance Group, as well as law students, staged a rally in Davao City to demand that the mass killing be resolved expeditiously.

"The people's demand for justice over the worst massacre in the country's history must hold strong. We must not be one grand chorus as threats to thwart the broad movement calling for justice for the victims of the Ampatuan massacre remain," said [illegible], chair of the UPLM chapter in the city.

The International Association of Democratic Lawyers also condemned the deaths of Brizuela and Oquendo.

"Yes, we are asking for heads to roll ... but the right time will come and it will take time. This will take time and it would be a long way. But we are ready. I am sure, the whole thing will test our patience and our resolve," Brizuela's brother said.



Our Merciful Mother bestows to the nation and the whole world the spirit of healing and kindness as we celebrate the feast of

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Principal Patroness of the Philippines, Mexico and the Americas

in obedience to the Papal Bull of Pope Pius XI, dated July 16, 1935.

God, with all His mercy and love, has made the Blessed Virgin Mary come to us in person, in her glorified body – a living and breathing gift to all mankind. Let us relive the splendor of her presence in observance of the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on **December 12, 2009** at **Our Lady of Guadalupe Church** in **Crisanto M. de los Reyes Ave., Brgy. Javalera, Gen. Trias, Cavite.** A concelebrated mass will be officiated by Most Reverend Manuel Sobreviñas, Bishop-Emeritus of the Diocese of Imus at **9:00 am**. Everyone is enjoined to come during and after the feast day celebration.

Listen my son
to what I tell you now,
Do not be troubled
Or disturbed by anything;
Do not fear illness
Or any occurrence or pain.

Am I not your Mother?
Am I not life and health?
Have I not placed you on my lap?
And made you my responsibility?
Do you need anything else?

Let the mercy of God, through the intercession of the Blessed Mother, keep you.

FOR INQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT
FR. ROEL CASTAÑEDA AT (046) 509-0233.

CAVITE
Be part of the revolution.

Mabuhay ka

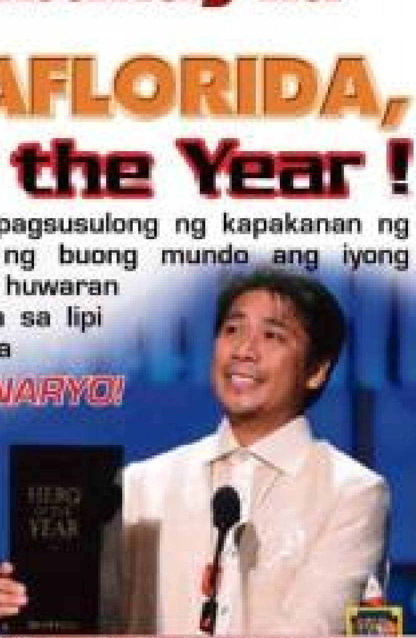
EFREN PEÑAFLORIDA,

CNN Hero of the Year !

Sa iyong dakilang adbokasiya sa pagsusulong ng kapakanan ng kabataan, kinilala at hinangaan ng buong mundo ang iyong kabayanihan. Dangal ka ng bayan at huwaran para sa bawat mamamayan. Mula sa lipi ng magiting, isa kang tunay na

KABITENYO, REBOLUSYONARYO!





Maalab na pagbati mula kina Gov. Ayong S. Maliksi at Vice Gov. Osboy Campana, kasama sina Cong. Jun Abaya, Cong. Pidi Barzaga, Provincial Board Members at ng Mamamayang Kabitenyo

Across the NATION

Blast kills 1 near Jolo police station

ZAMBOANGA CITY—One person was killed while 12 others were wounded when a powerful bomb exploded beside the police station in Jolo, Sulu, Saturday morning.

Election season

Beheading



Quezon exec demands probe of gambling firm

Meeting with mayors

Goodwill money

'Virtual games'

WHO readies vaccines vs return of flu

$5B not enough for repairing storm-damaged areas—Teves

Iloilo groups raise alarm on coal plants

Increasing use

7 active coal plants



Coal not solution



'24 Best Desserts'

And the winners are

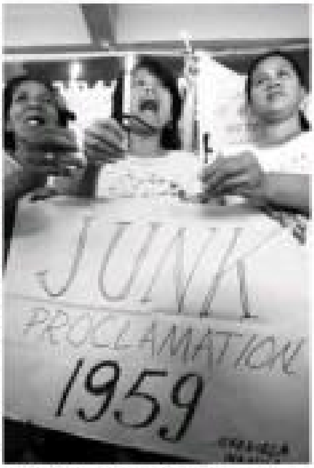
Real-life . . .

Nonpartisan

A hero in all of us

Better life

Senators oppose martial law proclamation



NEVER AGAIN

GMA's report

No invasion, rebellion

Congress must act now

Testing the waters

Ampatuans to tell all? And other motives

Ironic

SC: No basis for martial law; judges are working despite threats



BE VIGILANT CHR Chair Leila de Lima expresses her opposition to martial law in Mindanao

Judges not on leave

Unwarranted

Unnecessary

Be extra vigilant

Lawyers divided

Church voices


Pasko'y Tipid-Sulit sa mga
unlitext offers na may pantawag pa!
TALK 'N TEXT
Gaan UnliTxt Plus
Pili na sa mga Tipid-Sulit offers na ito!
7 DAYS UNLITEXT
P99
Plus 40-minute call!
Text GU99 to 4545
3 DAYS UNLITEXT
P55
Plus 30-minute call!
Text GU55 to 4545
2 DAYS UNLITEXT
P30
Plus 20-minute call!
Text GU30 to 4545
1 DAY UNLITEXT
P20
Plus 10-minute call!
Text GU20 to 4545
Load o Register na!

Aplus METRO

Shoe museum testimony to never-say-die industry

Imelda Marcos collection not the only attraction



APART from the much-publicized shoes of former First Lady Imelda Marcos, shoes of former presidents, like Manuel Roxas and Ramon Magsaysay, ... are featured in the museum.

UPON ENTERING THE MARIKINA Shoe Museum, visitors usually make a beeline for the rows and rows of the most famous size 8-and-a-half shoes in the world.

But curator Daily Berlongan hopes to change the impression that the 8-year-old museum on J. P. Rizal Street, Barangay San Roque, is all about shoes of Imelda Marcos, the feisty former First Lady.

Someday, according to Berlongan, the 800 pairs from Imelda's collection will sit side-by-side with a pair or two belonging to the late President Cory Aquino, ironically, the woman who became the next Malacañang tenant following the downfall of the Marcoses in 1986.

"Last year, when Mrs. Aquino was still alive, I had already asked the family if I could get a pair of her shoes, but I haven't had a response," the curator said in an interview.







Shoe museum testimony to never-say-die industry





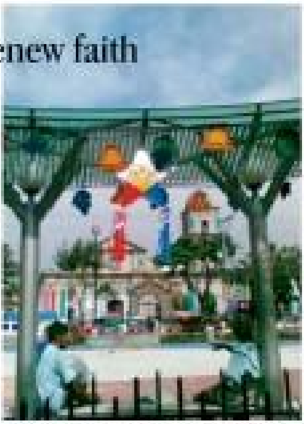
After the storm

No estimate

15TH ASIAN YOUTH DAY

Imus hosts gathering of young people to renew faith





Festive air

Challenge



Inner peace

Making a difference through mobile innovations



Using wireless technology to enable people to make secure online purchases and to bring the benefits of mobile finance to far-flung areas are innovations that Smart Communications, Inc. has painstakingly developed. Because of these innovations, the country's leading provider of wireless services has been recognized in Asia's wireless industry.



"Being recognized for our efforts to bring the benefits of mobile-based financial services to the grassroots through SMART Money as well as SMART's Island Activation Program and make a difference in people's lives is as much a challenge as it is an honor."

First in the world



Reaching the remote





Exceptional feat











GLOBAL Pinoy

Singer showcases ethnic Filipino culture in Japan







Initial involvement

Grand winner

New sound

Jack of all trades

A Christmas wedding

She's a Mandarin translator to Philippine presidents in China



Best in Chinese

Moving to Canada

The WORLD

Knox jailed 26 years for sex murder



KNOX in court in Perugia, Italy, on Dec. 4.

PERUGIA, ITALY—AMERICAN AMANDA KNOX was found guilty early Saturday along with her former Italian boyfriend in the 2007 sex murder of her British housemate Meredith Kercher and was sent to prison for 26 years.



KERCHER

Amanda Knox: Star of Italy's sensational whodunnit

102 dead in Russian resto fire

Britain ends UFO hot line

Thai king turns 82, calls for unity



KING BHUMIBOL

Catholic nuns challenge Vatican probe of their communities

WHAT'S INSIDE
■ Kobe triple rescues Lakers /A28



Sunday SPORTS



$25 million for Manny

Pacquiao, M'weather agree to 50-50 purse split

By Francis T.J. Ochoa

IN THE END, THERE WAS enough up-front money to agree to an equal split of the purse.



MANNY Pacquiao is starring in potentially the richest fight in history

Probable hosts



MAYWEATHER

No catch-weight

$150-M mark?



RP water polo bets nip Thais in SEA Games

Nationals fly to Laos today



No miracles for RP U-16 cagebelles

IN HUDDLE



Beth Celis

Alcantara completes Phinma title double



SPORTSWATCH

JR NBA program begins

Sletba Open Championships up

RP Youth subdues Hong Kong five



Mighty clinic slated

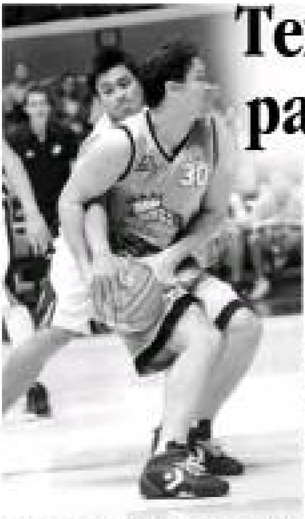
Wrestling champ a big Pacquiao fan

Triple H for 'Pretty Boy'



RP targets ABA hoop tourney

Texters scramble past game Tigers



Joseph: Pasa intervention warranted



JOSEPH

$25 million ...

RP golfers way behind



Don Enrico top Gold Cup choice today

Big Dome hosts 'Slasher'

Khan defends title vs Salita

Sunday SPORTS

Celtics crush Thunder

Kobe triple rescues Lakers; Nets finally win



LOS ANGELES Lakers guard Kobe Bryant (right) ... Dwyane Wade ... The Lakers won, 108-107. AP

Brazil draws tough 'WC' group

Patriots rip Indonesians again

Ferrer rallies over Stepanek as Spain paces Czech, 2-0

Sunday Biz

Social entrepreneurs find a home

By Annelle S. Tayao

IT'S A STORE EVEN MOTHER EARTH would want to shop in.

The EchoVillage Store not only promises its customers eco-friendly goods, it also aims to provide sustainable livelihood for small community producers.

EchoVillage is a result of a partnership between EchoStore Sustainable Lifestyle and The Village Store of Partnership and Access Center Consortium Inc. (PACCI).

Opening its doors to the public last Nov. 26, the EchoVillage Store's flagship outlet is located at the Peace and Equity Foundation (PEF) building on Esteban Abada Street, Loyola Heights, Quezon City.

SOCIAL B2



(LEFT) Jovelma and Reena Francisco of EchoStore, Dirk Bakker of ICCO and Kerk in Actie, [illegible], chair of the Partnership and Access Center Consortium Inc. (PACCI) and Chit Juan of EchoStore

The influence question: Will you grow or plateau?

A LEADER'S WAY



John C. Maxwell

Goal-conscious versus growth-conscious

Leaders develop daily, not in a day

GOINGS-ON

PyCCI bags Outstanding Chamber Award

Plantersbank promotes optimism

2GO boosts freight service

Social entrepreneurs find a home

Civil society networks







THE ORGANICALLY grown Forbidden Rice.





Design lab

One step ahead



Davao

PLDT Pasasalamat Night







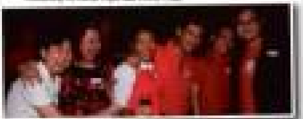
Winning With Excitement













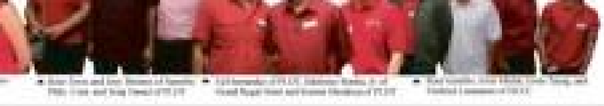












Sunday BIZ

Similarity in diversity

By Linda B. Bolido



BENJAMIN and Mercy Lazo

At the White House

Good taste

Special mention

Universally acceptable

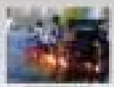


WHITE House executive chef Cristeta P. Comerford, wearing a gold medal (center), is flanked by John Comerford and Philippine Ambassador to the United States Willy C. Gaa.

Life goes on...

for Laguna typhoon victims





People, Events and Products

The gift of beauty comes to Filipinos everywhere

Sunday LIFESTYLE Relationships

How Chet loved his wife Margie back to life

'88 Days in India— A Pilgrimage of Faith, Hope and Love' is about the miracle of a family finding its faith in a time of great doubt

[illegible]

ROOTS AND WINGS



Cathy Babao-Guballa

[illegible]

French Christmas for him and her

[illegible]



ANNICK Goutal collection

How Chet loved his wife Margie back to life









THEIR children Mark, Patricia and Catherine

Lonely trip

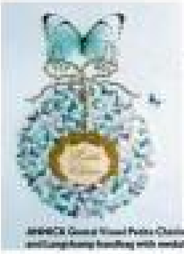
Heartfelt poem

Classic testament

French Christmas for him and her











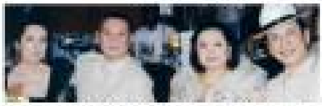


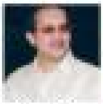


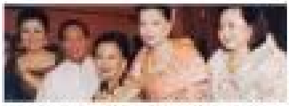












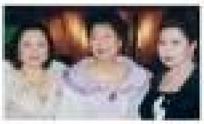




Club Bulakeño celebrates 21st year









Outstanding Filipino achievers honored in book

CKC Orchestra concerts

Meet Santa

Meat, fish processing seminar



Sunday LIFESTYLE





Wrinkles!

'When I look in the mirror, what do I want to see? I don't expect to see the face at my high school graduation'

By Cynthia C. Racon
Contributor

Like Norma Desmond

Retin A, Viagra



WRINKLES D4

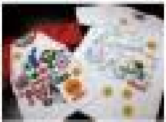
Student entrepreneurs show the true meaning of hope, charity with products with a social dimension





NEW AND VARIOUS UNIQUE FINDS AT BONIFACIO GLOBAL CITY'S 'THE HOPE FAIR'





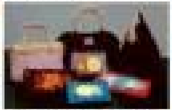


















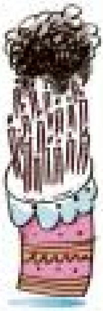




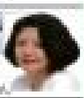
Wrinkles!







She's afraid of marriage



Emily's Post

Emily A. Marcos

Develop your career or whatever it is you love doing. Bottom line–get a life

Sunday Lifestyle Travel

‘Virtually indestructible’ luggage? This might be it





RP distributor Eman Pineda jumps on top of his Rimowa suitcase to prove the claim

By Cheche V Moral

Family-owned

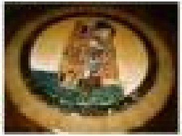
Wide lineup

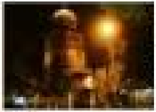












Another compulsive reason to revisit Dumaguete









New Year countdown in three hotel venues

'Curated' fashion for maximum impact



GIVENCHY Fall-Winter 2009



GIVENCHY Nightingale



GIVENCHY Pandora



> Adora strictly limits a bag style of prestige brands like Givenchy to only two pieces, some only one



GIVENCHY Fall-Winter 2009



'Virtually indestructible' luggage? . . .



IN THIS ISSUE

■ **Another compulsive reason** to revisit Dumaguete F2

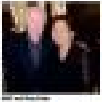
Sunday LifeStyle

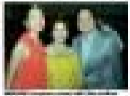
The power of the pink vote

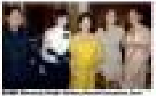
Just about every town in the country has a row of beauty parlors employing many people and servicing many clients. Their gay owners are influential, their endorsement crucial especially in tightly contested elections

Humble beginnings

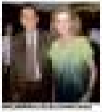
The power ...

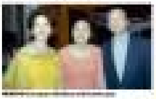


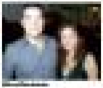


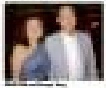
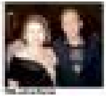
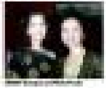



Fond nostalgia and thanksgiving for Raul and Menchu





Thousands gather at Plaza Roma today for Marian procession

PURELY PERSONAL



Josephine Darang

[illegible]

Our Lady of Caysasay

[illegible]

Immaculate Conception

[illegible]

Proclamation of faith

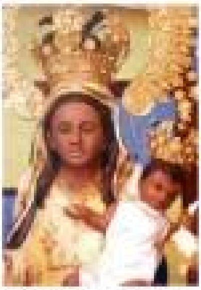
[illegible]

Holy God, we praise thy name

[illegible]

Concert for a cause

[illegible]



OUR LADY of Paz, patroness of Cagayan Valley

Ordination in Laoag

[illegible]

Our Lady of Guadalupe

[illegible]

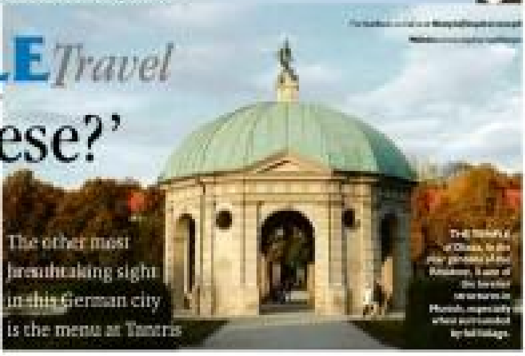
30th anniversary

[illegible]



Sunday LifeStyle Travel

'Here sit. Japanese?' —my six days in Munich



> The other most breathtaking sight in this German city is the menu at Tantris

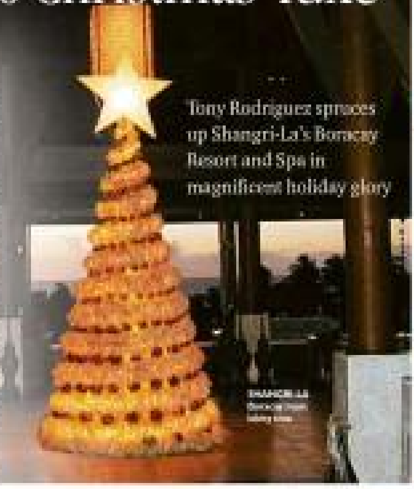
Contributor

THE FIRST THING YOU notice in Munich is how many urinals there are—usually twice as many, or thrice as many, as you would see in restaurants in Manila. Apparently this is because German men like to pee together a lot.

The second thing you notice in Munich is a rather muscular, often unsmiling female blocking your exit from the men's room. This forces you to rapidly search your pockets for a 50-cent coin. If you don't have any,

Boracay hotel decked in Filipino Christmas luxe

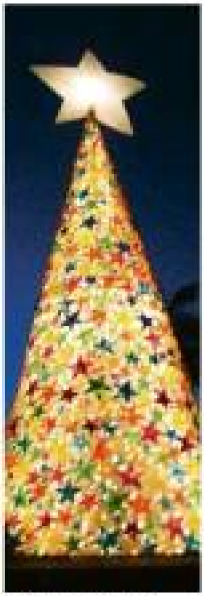
Tony Rodriguez spruces up Shangri-La's Boracay Resort and Spa in magnificent holiday glory





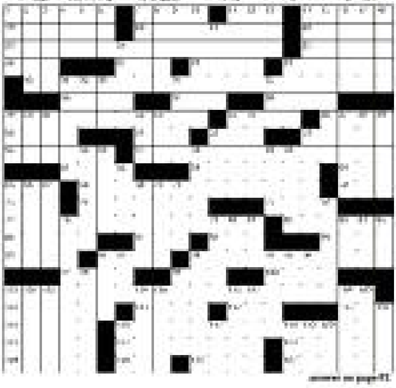






Sunday Crossword

PREMIER CROSSWORD / By Frank A. Longo



'Here sit. Japanese?' —my six days in Munich







Protein-rich hair care



THE RICKY REYES SALONS introduce TrimPlus, a breakthrough service that packages hair trimming and treatment services done at the same time in less than one hour.

TrimPlus answers the need of busy men and women who go for affordable, time-saving, safe and quality hair service.

"This is a gift to our clients," says Ricky Reyes who has been preparing his research and development team for the 40th anniversary of his salons.

According to research, each hair strand is 92-percent protein in composition, which diminishes as a person grows older or as more chemicals are used on the hair. TrimPlus makes use of keratin, a substance close to protein, to make hair soft, shiny and smooth with feather-light feel.

The Ricky Reyes salons use a special keratin application using nano molecular technology to make the protein penetrate hair strands faster and better.







DIFFERENT women with different needs go for affordable, time-saving, safe and quality hair service at Ricky Reyes salons.



MEET Boo

Cool kiddie stuff also help save environment

FANTASTIC INTERNATIONAL INC., established in the country nine years ago, is behind the Cool Kids and the Fluffy Friends brands.

Colorful and lovely characters make up the brands and kids can read about them in "The Adventures of Coco and Kimmy." The colorful and glossy children's book is exclusively offered for free for every purchase of Cool Kids products bought from any participating department stores nationwide.

Fantastic International Inc.'s latest offerings include fun shoes, bags, plush toys, accessories and gift items.

Every product from Fantastic International Inc. carries its commitment to preserve the environment. The company has partnered with World Wildlife Fund Philippines, an independent national organization affiliated with WWF International. For every purchase of any item from the Cool Kids brand, part of the sales will be donated to WWF Philippines.

Visit www.fantasticintl.com and www.coolkids.com.ph.

LION



MONKEY



Sunday LIFESTYLE

IN THIS ISSUE

■ **How Chot loved his wife Margie back to life** /C1



ADVOCACY ambassadors Tessa Prieto-Valdes and Socorro Ramos



NATIONAL Book Store's Trina Alindogan and Dingdong Dantes launch Project Aklat.



MONGOL pencils endorser [illegible]

Gardens, cookbooks, cool tees, pencils—Christmas treats galore

MAKATI IS THE CITY WHERE I LIVE, eat, breathe and shop. It is prettiest during the Christmas season with its outdoor street decorations and its many malls beaming brightly through the night.

To add to the merry festivities, the Ayala Triangle Gardens has now opened its lush landscapes, providing an oasis in the middle of the CBD's concrete desert. It is a garden that aims to refresh and inspire, but it is also a public haven featuring Globe-powered WiFi.

To capture the spirit of Christmas, a majestic lights-and-sounds show beams from the gardens every 30 minutes from 6 p.m. onward on weekdays. The Symphony of Lights Show was created by [illegible] and Jethro Joaquin.

Fellow Ironman 70.3 finisher and COO of Ayala Corp. Fernando Zobel de Ayala and his brother Jaime Augusto were delighted with the opening evening that kicked off the Christmas merriment. [illegible] gave a jumpstart at the gardens with an anticipated Mass on Dec. 15, 5:30 p.m.



TESSA!
Tessa Prieto-Valdes

> Of Star Paper's advocacy, Boy Abunda put it best when he said he's proud to be a 'Mongolian'

Legendary notebooks

The newest addition to Makati's many malls is Glorietta 5. Another recent National Book Store recently highlighted the legendary Moleskine notebooks with a moving exhibition of contemporary Asian artists, "My Moleskine Exhibition." This display continues at NBS outlets in Rockwell, TriNoma and Robinson's Galleria until Jan. 22.

In addition, "Open Call Manila," a contest that gives Filipinos the opportunity to use Moleskine notebooks as their creative canvas, is ongoing. The winner will receive P25,000 in gift certificates from NBS and a round-trip ticket to Shanghai to attend the opening of the Moleskine MyDetour Shanghai 2010 exhibit. See www.nationalbookstore.com for details.

With all my visits to National Book Store, I have developed a new fondness for cookbooks. After hosting the GE Monogram Appliances event with world-renowned master chef Martin Yan, I have been so inspired to cook, even if I start with simple dishes like... scrambled eggs. Nothing too difficult for my [illegible].

With over 30 cookbooks to his name, Chef Martin is the best ambassador for GE Monogram Appliances.

Although I am useless in the kitchen, the GE Monogram Experience Center at [illegible] showcases the different appliances that make cooking a breeze. I think the best appliance for me is the GE Monogram microwave, perfect for reheating stuff I order

GARDENS/C2









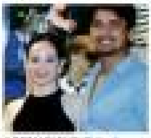
Gardens, cookbooks, cool tees, pencils—Christmas treats galore



Latest cookbook

[illegible]

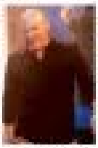





Newest site

[illegible]









Milestones

[illegible]

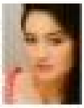




DALISAY-CABRERA

[illegible]

LOPEZ DEBUT



[illegible]

DE LA CRUZ-AUSTRIA



[illegible]

DAMALERIO-PONTELO



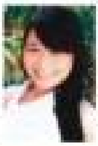
[illegible]

DUMAGAL DEBUT



[illegible]

SURBANO DEBUT



[illegible]



'Green' Christmas at RP's first butler hotel

[illegible]



[illegible]



RECYCLED ornaments

Milanos Shoes

SM Department Store showcases Milanos, a shoe line which offers a variety of edgy designs good for casual and formals for the stylish man.

WORK AND FUN

Driving shoes can be worn either at work or at play. Wear a graphic tie with a cardigan and khaki pants to keep that corporate but still playful look- while your blue loafers is the key piece. After work, fold your office pants and it can be turned into a fun pair of shorts; pair with colorful top and you're set.



Brown loafer with green, white and red details

Brown suede loafer with grey and green details

Black loafer with brown, black, red and white details

CREATING A STATEMENT

Inspired by japanese fashion, one can pair subtle pieces like greys and whites like a vest, pants and a dress shirt but the statement piece is an elegant pair of pointed brown tie-up leather shoes with fun details.





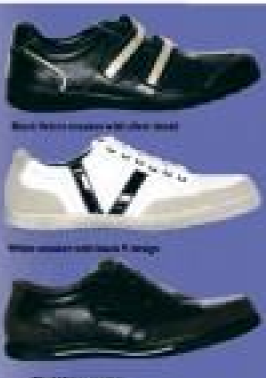
Black leather tie-up with weave detail

Brown leather slip on with washed detail

YOUNG BUT CLASSIC

Sneakers are always fun style staples, especially the classic white ones, which can be paired with black shorts and even a playful bow tie.





Sunday LifeStyle

'Pinoy na Pinoy' Christmas greets visitors at NAIA 3

From 'anahaw' leaves to chicken coops, Rachy Cuna's displays offer a glimpse of an uncorrupted Filipino soul



By Margs C. Enriquez

BEYOND A FILIPINO Christmas theme, artist Rachy Cuna's display at Naia 3 has a philosophical underpinning.

Filipino trait

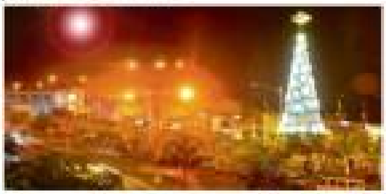


AT THE BOOK launch: author Norma Chikiamco and illustrator Mark Salvatus



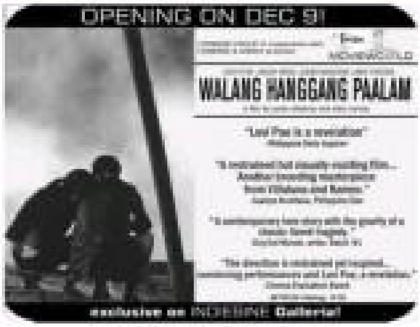
NORMA Olizon Chikiamco

Palanca-winning children's book now available

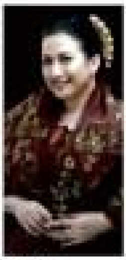




Giant Christmas tree by the bay uses energy-efficient lights



Benefit concert for typhoon victims





'Pinoy na Pinoy' Christmas greets visitors at NAIA 3



"COCOPINAS," coconut husks painted in metallic colors, replace conventional Christmas balls.



"ISANG HOSL," Cosa's pie... the Filipino penchant for... [illegible]



"PAGKAKAISA," Cosa's vision... Origami birds made of dried pandan leaves perched on tall bamboo poles, with birds of paradise leaves and curled coconut shells for texture.



CUPAN's interpretation of a family gathering or "salusalo" in a simple arrangement of red food cover over a table arrangement of clay pots, rattan-made plates, plates and sinkay, all in striking red.

From page 1

[illegible] strands of red rattan sticks for accent.

"Bukid ng Buhay (Spirit of Life)" is a giant arrangement of golden anahaw leaves and long rattan sticks on fillers on a red, woven-bamboo, cone-shaped vessel.

Cosa explains that whatever the viewer experiences as beauty or delight is a gift—a wealth not only of decor ideas but also of glimpses into the Filipino soul.

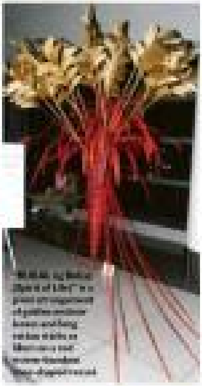
Local surroundings, he notes, have rich materials waiting to be discovered, and imagination has the power to turn mundane things into something that surprises.

"One of my missions is to show that we have lots of treasures in us and around us that we have taken for granted," he says.

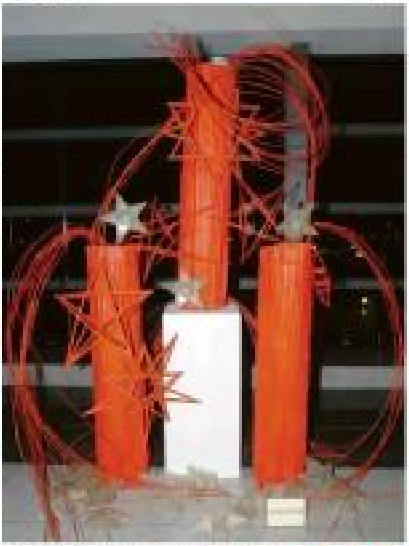
Maverick

As a style maverick and design consultant, Cosa made his mark setting up exhibitions and decorating events for Ayala Museum. He then became a consultant to the Metropolitan Museum shop. Then collaborated with private clients in decorating homes and parties.

He drew media attention for his table settings during the launch of an entertaining



"BUKID ng Buhay (Spirit of Life)" is a giant arrangement of golden anahaw leaves and long rattan sticks as fillers on a red, woven-bamboo, cone-shaped vessel.



"SUMASAGANA," flaunts the color of prosperity—rattan bundles accentuated with capiz lanterns.

and hospitality book by Conchitina Bernardo and Isla Mahitagasa, diplomats' wives.

When he ventured into paintings, he held an exhibit at Met Museum, which he set up like a Zen garden. The exhibit traveled to Beijing, called "Asia's East."

In the past years, he has set up four Filipino-themed exhibits at the Hotel InterContinental and published a coffee table book on his floral sculptures, "Adornment: Kenny Cosa's Inspirations."

Today, he is busy decorating a resort in Boracay and doing the merchandise display at Greenhills Department Store. Every September he holds the Kenny Cosa Cup, a competition on the best floral installation.

Asked what the point of his career is, Cosa modestly replies: "Just being given the frequent opportunities to share my ideas and a good space to put up the designs."



MARVIN Holding, local executive assistant terminal manager for T3, and Kenny Cosa

Travel Briefs



BORACAY ESCAPADE

Sea Wind's Boracay Escapade is ongoing until Dec. 19. Spend three days and two nights for P4,850 per person (quad-sharing) inclusive of Deluxe room accommodation, daily breakfast, one buffet dinner, welcome drink and round-trip transfers via Caticlan airport. For inquiries, call 415-1288, e-mail seawind@pacific.net.ph or visit www.seawindresort.net.

Holiday room packages

Discovery Suites offers Christmas Three Room Package. Until Dec. 24 and on Dec. 26-30 local residents may book two nights and can extend their stay for one night at P9,888 for a Junior Suite, and P10,888 for a One-bedroom Suite, inclusive of breakfast at Restaurant 5.

The Suite Christmas Eve packages offered on Dec. 24 and includes overnight accommodation in a Junior Suite for P4,388+, One-bedroom Suite at P5,888+, Two-bedroom Suite at P8,888+ and Three-bedroom Suite at P12,888. All accommodations include buffet breakfast at Restaurant 5.

On New Year's Eve, the Suite Celebrations Room Package offers overnight accommodations with special amenities—chilled bottle of wine and cheese and grape platter. The package is priced at P5,888+ for a Junior Suite, P6,888+ for a One-bedroom Suite, P12,888+ for a Two-bedroom Suite and P16,000 for a Three-bedroom Suite.

The Suite Revelry Room Package includes overnight New Year's Eve accommodation with breakfast, and two complimentary tickets to the hotel's Countdown Party on the 42nd floor. This package is priced at P8,000+ for a Junior Suite, P9,888+ for a One-bedroom Suite, P18,888+ for a Two-bedroom Suite, and P22,000+ for a Three-bedroom Suite.

Call 719-8888 or (02) 719-888 or e-mail rsvn@discovery.com.ph.

Meanwhile, Discovery Suites in Tagaytay offers Holiday Room Package on Dec. 18 to Jan. 3, 2010. Overnight accommodations as offered in any of the themed suites—Tagaytay Suite at P10,888+, Saint Tropez Suite at P10,888+, Capiz Suite at P10,888+, Bamboo Suite at P11,888+, Bam Suite at P11,888+, Alam Suite at P11,888+ and the Gold Suite at P14,888. Call 413-4067 in Tagaytay City or (02) 719-8888. E-mail rsvn@discovery.com.ph.

The Visual Poetry behind Piolo's Photography



Piolo Pascual, ingenious actor that he is, continues to surprise his adoring public. The success of Manila and Kimmy Dora, essentially his first dips as a movie producer, proves his mettle not just as a heartthrob but as a versatile all-round craft.

Few entertainers of his generation can boast of such a feat, with most falling in a rut of how to expand their talent. But for Piolo, finding ways to express and exercise his creativity seems to be limitless. Aside from his TV, movie and singing gigs, who knew that he possess an eye for visual feats, specifically behind the lenses of a camera?

Adoring public explore a different side of Piolo Pascual the photographer, shown through a partnership between his very own Hebron Foundation and Sun Life Financial Philippines (SLFP). Dubbed Sun PIOLOgy 2010, the tie-up created a calendar accompanied by beautiful travel portraits taken by Piolo himself. Proceeds of its sales will go to his foundation, a testament of his Christian faith that champions education and poverty alleviation.

SunPIOLOgy 2010 calendar is available in Fully Booked outlets. His photo collection will be formally launched via a BENEFIT EXHIBIT from December 8 to at the Art Hall of the Enterprise Center along Ayala Avenue in Makati. For a preview, please visit www.sunpiology.com.

Camera as traveling companion

"Ever since the one megapixel camera came out, I always have my camera with me during shoots and travels," shared Piolo. In fact, he is thankful for digital photography, which made such a hobby cheaper and more accessible. He then wished down memory lane of shots, some dating as far back as a decade ago, as to how an ethereal the evolution of an artist and ultimately, an actor.

Since most of his travels also involve work commitments, the pictures presented a quick rundown of Piolo's acting credits, from being a lanky talented support to a box office leading man. However, it's his vision of a solitary wanderer that strikes the most, a stark opposite to the hustle and bustle of the entertainment industry.

Wide and beautiful embraces

There is an apparent absence of human presence in the choice of shots, at best there are anonymous faces that happened to just pass by. Piolo himself admitted to favoring landscapes, wide and beautiful embraces of nature and man-made marvels, which he cannot seem to get enough of.

Highlights in panoramas includes a staggering vista of Paris nightlife, a lonesome shade somewhere in Europe, and a still farmhouse overlooking the sea in Batangas. Aside from preserving memories, the camera is an extension of Piolo's personality, and one so his values and to what deeply resonates to his spirit.

The twelve photographs included in Sunpiology 2010 offers a behind the scenes glimpse of an actor, whose life has been the topic of many websites and rumor-mongers. These works allow healthy speculation on stories and perception of Piolo Pascual, both as an entertainer and a very private public persona. There is no shamelessness of distracted elements—just a beautiful translation of a well-kept secret.

After all, he is no different from a photograph, which hides more than it reveals. As influential US photographer Diane Arbus said: "A photograph is a secret about a secret. The more it tells you the less you know." Piolo Pascual continues to embody such a perspective.

Baby blessing

For a heart felt moment on her christening day, dress your precious angel only with the most delicate baptismal gowns from Trajecitos de Bebe exclusively at SM Department Store

Sheer delight

Light and airy, a chiffon gown is as dreamy as a christening day should be



Immaculate



Your baby deserves nothing but the best in exquisite satin

Pure comfort

For a more casual celebration, white cotton keeps your little one at ease



Sunday LifeStyle

Quickie tour of National Museum for 'balikbayan'

With artifacts dating 20,000 years back, it is truly a museum of the Filipino people

By John L. Silva
Contributor



PEOPLE WHO VISIT THE National Museum want to see all of it. Well, if they did, it would take a week. With a collection dating 20,000 years back and close to a million artifacts, the museum's collection is overwhelming. Here's the edited, highlighted version for visitors, including your balikbayan kin, to the Museum with particular interests and time constraints.

First thing to know is the National Museum in Manila has two buildings. One is called the Museum of the Filipino People (formerly the Finance Building), located in Rizal Park; the other across the street is the National Gallery of Art (formerly the Legislative Building) on Padre Burgos Street. You can Google a map of the two buildings so you won't get lost.

If you are an architecture buff, the neo-American colonial era buildings will astound you. Built in 1918, the enormous five-story Legislative Building is outfitted with Mormon architectural details, like the pediment and the Corinthian columns. The classic Parthenon comes to mind, not by coincidence but as an American branding statement that their country was founded on democratic ideals.

The Finance Building across the street, built in 1939, retains the same details and majesty. Both buildings were destroyed by mortar fire during the liberation of Manila and rebuilt exactly as they once were after World War II.

To traipse through the two buildings, admiring it from the outside and reviewing the preserved details inside, with the ornate staircases and the exquisite grillwork, would take an hour.

More so if you look in the wonderful Rizal Park fronting the Finance Building, designed by the American architect Daniel Burnham to look like a mini-version of the Washington Smithsonian mall. This area is the last remaining example of American city planning in the city.

We are just at the framing of this museum, because inside there is a dizzying choice of galleries.

San Diego

Are you a nautical fan? A colonial history buff? After entering the Museum of the Filipino People, head straight to the second floor (elevator or stairways).

The 16th-century galleon San Diego, recovered off Manila Bay in the '90s, is a wondrous return to the history of adventure and daring by intrepid Spanish and Filipino crew who crossed the Pacific Ocean, taking up to five months to get to the Americas. In their hold were the spices (worth as much as gold), silks, porcelain, ivory saints, handcrafted silver and exotic treasures that dazzled the imagination.

In return, the Philippines, and eventually all of Asia would be introduced to America's indigenous plants, vegetables and the much coveted silver.

There's the ship's navigational instruments, including an astrolabe, the envy of nautical museums around the world. There are usually replicas. Ours is the original.

If you happen to catch one of my tours, there's a marvelous story about the ship's captain, Antonio Morga, who would later write a comprehensive history of the islands and, 300 years later, was reviewed and annotated by Jose Rizal.

What an incredible meeting of the minds, across centuries, with Rizal showing off his mettle as an ethnologist!

If you're into porcelain, be prepared to be awed by the massive collection of Ming jars, pottery and plates recovered from the San Diego on depths of 150 feet still gleaming, still outpouring those passionate for this company's treasures.

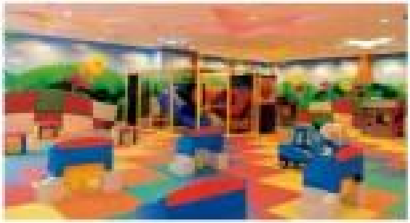
And in a nearby room on the same second floor, the Museum shows off the most incredible selection of Chinese junk artifacts recovered from the Palawan seas. Jars from Siam, Cambodia and Vietnam, plates and pottery from China—all are mouth-watering to behold.

CONTINUED ON C4

How Andy Bautista found his Shangri-La



SCULPTURAL staircase is the focal point in the large lounge of St. Francis Tower



IN KEEPING with Hong Kong standards, the luxury condo has a bigger-than-average children's playroom.



ANDRES "Andy" Donato Bautista

'Just ask the right questions, and with common sense you will be able to understand it,' says the 45-year-old CEO of Shang Properties in RP

Edgar Allan's bridal creations showcased at UN

THE UNITED NATIONS WOMEN'S GROUP comprising the wives of the Ambassadors to the UN, celebrated their 60th anniversary with a fundraising dinner and fashion show of Bridal Gowns of the World at the New York Botanical Garden last Nov. 4. Hundreds of guests attended the black tie event under the glittering chandeliers and surrounded by arches and French windows of the Botanical Garden's pavilion, New York's much favored bridal reception venue.





ONE OF Edgar Allan's bridal creations

Thirty wedding costumes from different continents of the world, representing diverse cultures and styles, were paraded by models from their respective countries.

Edgar Allan, through his business partner Rene Trangco, was invited by Mayie Davide, wife of Philippine Ambassador to the UN Hilario Davide, to showcase his bridal creation that was on exhibit at the Philippine Center on 5th Ave. earlier that week.

Edgar Allan's gown was inspired by the Philippine national flower, Sampaguita, featuring a dramatic petal-like bodice and leather woven strips of local fabric, Jusi, on the bouffant skirt. Five-foot nine-inches tall, [illegible] Filipina Janet Concepcion of the Philippine Mission to the United Nations was one of the guests who [illegible] per plate to benefit the various projects of the group, specifically the indigent children of the world. Ambassador and Mrs. Davide beamed with pride as Edgar's [illegible] drew admiring applause from the appreciative guests.

ALLAN'S gown was inspired by the sampaguita flower



BRIDAL gowns of the world showcased at the New York Botanical Garden

UST honors philosopher with 'Festschrift'

The University of Santo Tomas, through its Department of Humanities, Office of the Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs and Research, Faculty of Arts and Letters and Graduate School, will launch the book, "Across the Philosophical Silk Road: A Festschrift in Honor of Alfredo P. Co," on Dec. 10, 1:30-5 p.m., at the Thomas Aquinas Research Complex auditorium.

The festschrift is a two-volume publication of the honoree's collection of works, tackling philosophy, religion, the humanities, Asian culture, history and the arts.

Co graduated with a PhD in Philosophy from UST in 1978 and had taken Comparative Philosophy in Sorbonne (Université de Paris III and Université de Paris IV) as a French government scholar. He is the foremost Sinologist in the Philippines and teaches at UST Faculty of Arts and Letters and UST Graduate School. He is the chair of the Philippine Commission on Higher Education (Ched) Technical Committee for Philosophy.

For book orders, call Lourdes Lopez of the UST Publishing House at 731-3522 or 406-1611 loc. 8252 and 8278.

WHAT'S UP

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Sun Broadband Prepaid's latest treat is 1-day unlimited internet for P50. The load comes built-in scratch card or via Xpressload, allowing Sun Broadband prepaid subscribers to stay connected for 24 continuous hours.

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The other Sun Broadband Wireless loads now have doubled its hours. The P300 load now has 12 [illegible] for four days, and P1,000 load now gives 48 hours of surfing with 15 days validity. Sun Regular Prepaid subscribers can avail "Web 300" special loads for mobile internet access via browser. Just follow the instructions at the back of the card.

Visit the Sun Shop or call 395-3333 using landline or 333 from Sun mobile phone. Visit www.suncellular.com.ph.

Electrolux promo

Until Dec. 31, Electrolux has a promo with every purchase of an Electrolux split-type air conditioner. One gets to avail a free installation package for the first 16.4-ft standard copper tubing. This also includes the following: rubber insulation foam and insulation tape; polyethylene bracket; labor; preventive maintenance cleaning. Four times over free years (valued at P1,800), organic 2-filter vacuum cleaner (valued at P5,000); 12 months 0-percent card installment (no payments for a year).

Call 845-CARE (2273) or domestic toll-free number 1-800-10-845-CARE (2273); visit www.electrolux.com.ph.

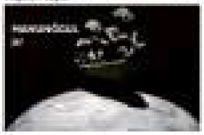
Anniversary promo

T.G.I. Friday's is turning 15 years old on Dec. 11. On that day, Chicken Fingers will be priced at only P7.95 from 8 p.m. to closing time.

The restaurant is located at Glorietta 3, Robinsons Place Manila, Alabang Town Center, Tomas Morato, SM [illegible], Greenbelt, Bonifacio High Street, Trinoma, SM Mall of Asia and Ayala Center Cebu.

Quickie tour of National . . .







Holiday room packages



ENTERTAINMENT



On top of on-cam job, a high corporate post

Paolo Bediones has left GMA 7 to oversee content and programming for new TV5

AS HOST on Kapuso channel's "Survivor" (left). "I hope they continue even without me," he says.



By Bayani San Diego Jr.

PAOLO BEDIONES EAGERLY announces that he has a new office address: "I'll be reporting to Novaliches now."

In an exclusive interview, the erstwhile Kapuso confirms that he has just signed up with TV5, under the new management team of Manny V. Pangilinan's MediaQuest.

Apart from being an on-camera talent with several shows in the pipeline, Bediones will also hold a corporate job, "to oversee content and programming," says manager Noel Ferrer.

As TV5's new program executive, Bediones is expected to participate in brainstorming sessions to formulate new concepts and shows for the station.

"That part of the job appeals to me," he explains. "I've always enjoyed debating and discussing ideas at my old job in GMA 7."

He has always been a hands-on host—particularly on his two popular Kapuso shows "Extra Challenge" and "Survivor Philippines," he recounts.

Fruitful partnership

"On 'Survivor,' I was part of the core team," he relates. "I can be a bit OC (obsessive-compulsive) and I admit that it led to conflicts with the producers ... but it eventually yielded a fruitful partnership and a successful second season."

He would like to bring the same work ethic to his new post. "It's about being open to new ideas. It's not about who gets the credit. It's about being one team."

He's pretty bullish about his prospects in TV5. "What better way to explore those possibilities than with a new company, a new team."

He explains: "I'm glad to be part of a team that isn't ratings-bound, but is content-driven instead. Ratings are important because these figures provide immediate feedback from viewers. But if you want to uplift the audience, you shouldn't just give them something they want ... you should also offer them something new, something that they need."

The two key words in his decision are "long-term and career plan," he points out.

He sees his new assignment in the fledgling network "as an opportunity to make a significant change not only in myself, but in the industry at large."

Unlike the previous team, [illegible], which only stayed for a year in TV5, Bediones believes that MediaQuest is in it for the "long haul."

Breaking the duopoly

"I don't think Mr. Pangilinan will invest billions of pesos just to play with the network. They're very serious about breaking the duopoly (of ABS-CBN and GMA 7), and becoming a major player in the industry," he says.

"Exciting," he describes his new job. "I am certain that I will learn a lot from this new team, which has made major strides in the fields of telecommunication and business."

Nevertheless, he looks back fondly on his 14 years as a Kapuso.

"I want to bring the good things I learned in GMA 7 to TV 5—specifically, sharing your knowledge and being respectful of other people," he says.

Apart from his bosses, Felipe Gozon and Jimmy Duavit, he's especially indebted to Marissa Flores, senior vice president for news and public affairs. "She's one of the most decent people I've ever met. She has a big heart and has always been supportive of my efforts."

He hopes GMA 7 will continue the "Survivor" franchise even without him. "I'm sure they'll find a suitable new host. The public deserves more innovative shows like 'Survivor.'"

E-mail: [illegible]



A rockin' 2010 ahead for RP

By Pocholo Concepcion

CLASSIC ROCK FANS in the Philippines have a lot to look forward to in 2010 as the following acts are booked for concerts one after the other, all at the Araneta Coliseum: The Beach Boys on Jan. 27; Chicago on Feb. 16; Michael McDonald and Boz Scaggs on March 9; and Tears For Fears on May 2.

The artists' bookings were confirmed by promoter Renen de Guia, whose Dream Productions is mounting all the gigs.

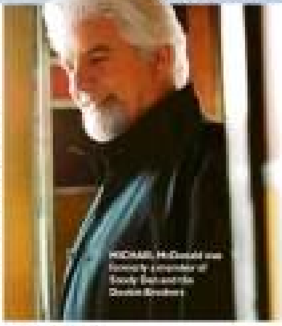
No Brian Wilson

The Beach Boys last played at the Big Dome in 2000 and the show was sold out, said De Guia. Although the group—one of the greatest and best-selling American bands of all time—won't be joined in by its leader and chief songwriter Brian Wilson due to legal complications, De Guia said it has retained its distinct sound and has Mike Love, an original member and Brian's cousin, and Bruce Johnston, who joined the band in 1965, in the current lineup.

Chicago was supposed to play here last September but had to postpone its show when keyboardist/vocalist Robert Lamm accidentally broke his right leg. As everyone knows, former bassist/vocalist Peter Cetera has gone solo, but the band's other original members are intact, including the horn section composed of James Pankow (trombone), Lee Loughnane (trumpet/flugelhorn) and Walter Parazaider (saxophone).

McDonald and Scaggs—still active as touring artists—will be performing here for the first time, then with Tears For Fears.

Prior to releasing his 1982 debut solo album, "If That's What It Takes" (which featured the hits "I Keep Forgettin'" and "I Gotta Try"), McDonald was a a member of the original touring band and regular musician of the rock-jazz duo Steely Dan. He sang backup vocals and played keyboards for Steely Dan starting on the "Katy Lied" album onwards, most notably on the tracks "Peg" and "I Got the News" on "Aja," until 1980's "Gaucho."



MICHAEL McDonald was formerly a member of Steely Dan and the Doobie Brothers

'Blue-eyed soul'

In 1975 McDonald was recruited by the versatile country pop-rock band Doobie Brothers. His "blue-eyed soul" singing would define the band's new signature sound—much evident in the songs "Takin' It to the Streets," "It Keeps You Runnin'," "Minute By Minute" and "What a Fool Believes," which McDonald co-wrote with Kenny Loggins and won for them the Grammy Award for Song of the Year and Record of the Year in 1980.



TEARS For Fears



BOZ Scaggs (right) once played with the Steve Miller Band

McDonald's recent albums consisted of tributes to Motown and soul music.

'Silk Degrees'

Scaggs, a singer-songwriter who had stints with a number of groups, notably the Steve Miller Band, achieved fame in 1976 with his seventh solo album, "Silk Degrees." Recorded with the future members of Toto and featuring the tracks "Lowdown," "Lido Shuffle" and "We're All Alone," the album was a big hit, peaking at No. 2 on the Billboard chart.

For a while, it seemed the Tears For Fears gig would never materialize. Originally scheduled for February next year, the show was reportedly cancelled due to kinks in the involved duo's Asian tour.

But fortunately De Guia, who has been in touch with the group's agents, has finally bagged the deal to bring key members Roland Orzabal and Curt Smith—whose music was identified with 1980s synth-pop—to the Rock.

Thanks to Adam

Tears For Fears had a good global exposure this year when one of its hit songs, "Mad World," was covered twice by Adam Lambert in Season 8 of "American Idol."

E-mail: pconcepcion@inquirer.com.ph

'Carol' . . .

From page K4

the emotive and persuasive force of Carrey's portrayal of Scrooge. A less idiosyncratic actor would have gotten swamped by the film's visual flourishes, but the star comedian's performance sustains viewers' attention throughout the full-length feature.

Even better, Carrey proves in this film that he's more than "just" a funny actor famous for mugging his way through many a hit comedy. Carrey's portrayal here doesn't need to rely on physical comedy and cuteness to score with viewers.

The production can be faulted for focusing too rigorously on its one performer, in a kind of tunnel vision that limits the movie's range of resonance. But Carrey makes up for this lack with a veritable tour de force that eventually humanizes Scrooge and makes his transformation believable—and thus truly inspiring.

'Diary of a Wimpy Kid'

Shopping rights of a particularly prized sort have been bagged by the film "Diary of a Wimpy Kid," because its compilation of the most comical musings of a teenager has been declared winner of the 2009 Nickelodeon Kids' Choice Award for Best Book Series, trouncing even the "Harry Potter" and "Twilight" franchises. In the film adaptation, first-year high school student Greg Heffley reveals the hazards of growing up through his unique drawings and writing.

'New York, I Love You'

Many movies have been made about New York City, but "New York, I Love You" provides a fresh, unabashedly romantic view of the Big Apple—without the worse in it.

Seen entirely through the eyes of love in all its variety, the movie's vision is a composite of the impressionistic takes of inspirational, young filmmakers like Mira Nair, Fatih Akin, Shunji Iwai, and even Natalie Portman. Their stories are woven together to form a colorful, lyrical collage, not just of the city but of the deep yearning for love that animates everyone in it.


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Cirilo Garilla, retiree
Novaliches
"Ang bilis na-activate! Biro mo, 5pm nag-apply, gumana agad ang landline kinagabihan. Napaka-convenient sa catering business ko lalo na pag maraming tumatawag para sa orders."
Myrna Driones, entrepreneur
Batangas
"Matagal na naming gusto magkaroon ng landline at internet. Kaya nung na-activate, di na nahirapan mag-research ang mga bata para sa school projects nila. Ang bilis kasi ng connection."
Lilibeth Granboa, housewife
Batangas
"Gusto ako tawagan sa cellphone ng anak kong nasa Yemen, kaya lang hindi naman ako marunong gumamit noon. Mas gusto ko PLDT kasi madali gamitin at saka malinaw ang tawag. Pati mga kamag-anak ko sa Maynila, nakakausap ko na rin."
Rosa Cielo Piña, homemaker
Batangas
"Malaking tulong ang internet sa pag-aaral namin ng kapatid ko. Nakakatawag-tawagan na din kami ng parents ko dito sa bahay kapag umaalis sila. Kaya masaya din ako dahil may landline at internet na agad kami."
Daven Balleras, high school student
Novaliches
"Natutuwa ako kasi pwede ko pala makausap at makita ang anak kong nasa Saudi gamit ang computer. Salamat sa PLDT at sa mabilis na pagkabit ng telepono at internet."
Teresita Adique, grandmother
Novaliches
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'Carol' no humbug; 'New Moon' needs new heroine

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Nestor U. Torre

Travails

Best of the lot

Sensitive storyteller



Holiday albums

SPIN

Claire duets with Bolton

ENTERTAINMENT

Taylor Lautner's body 'a temple'

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD



Ruben V. Nepales

From small to large

Height of love triangle



TAYLOR Lautner



Lambert still in hot water



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TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON

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MOVIEWORLD

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMA MOVIE GUIDE

GALLERIA

1 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON
2 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON
3 PLANET 51
4 NINJA ASSASSIN
5 AMELIA
6 A CHRISTMAS CAROL (DIGITAL 3D)
7 SPIKING LURA
8 COUNT
9 2012
10 PARANORMAL ACTIVITY

MANILA

1 PARANORMAL ACTIVITY
2 AMELIA
3 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON / A CHRISTMAS CAROL
4 PLANET 51
5 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON
6 NINJA ASSASSIN
7 2012

METRO EAST

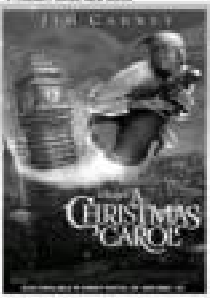
1 NINJA ASSASSIN
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NOVALICHES

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3 2012
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FORUM ROBINSONS

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2 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON
3 2012
4 NINJA ASSASSIN



STA. ROSA

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2 A CHRISTMAS CAROL
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4 2012

LIPA

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3 JENNIFER'S BODY
4 A CHRISTMAS CAROL

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1 500 DAYS OF SUMMER / A CHRISTMAS CAROL
2 2012
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BACOLOD

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6 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON

ILOILO

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2 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON
3 JENNIFER'S BODY
4 A CHRISTMAS CAROL
5 LAW ABIDING CITIZEN
6 2012

GENSAN

1 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON
2 A CHRISTMAS CAROL
3 2012
4 ERPAT KO SI LOLO

ILOCOS NORTE (NOW OPEN!)

1 2012
2 NINJA ASSASSIN
3 TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON





KARL Roy



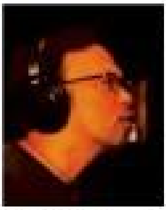
BARBIE Almalbis



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47 artists take on climate change in new music video





BAYANG Barrios and Noel Cabangon

'HIStory' reissue traces Jackson's rise and fall

Michael Jackson

"HIStory"

Epic Records

Review

Green Day

BFFs at the beauty pageant



MS. FILIPINAS Melody Gersbach, right, with Finland's Linda Wikstedt and United States' Alison Jan Yap

Warm memories

'Recycled' contestants


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ENTERTAINMENT

Pusby starlet tries to mow down rival



RUSHES SUNDAY

Regrets only

Bad move for Claudine

Sundance-worthy

Happy birthdays!

Top of the tabloids

Tribute docu explores maestro's famed 'madness'

By Bayani San Diego Jr.



CELSO Ad. Castillo. Later known as "The Kid." Interviews for the docu amounted to 10 hours of footage.



"BURLESK Queen," starring Vilma Santos in the title role, was an artistic breakthrough. Maria Isabel Lopez still speaks fondly of her "Isla" experience.

[illegible]

10-hour footage

[illegible]



[illegible]



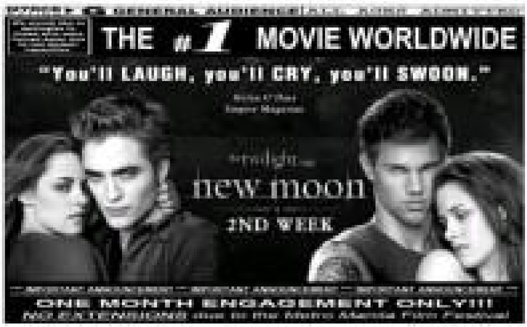


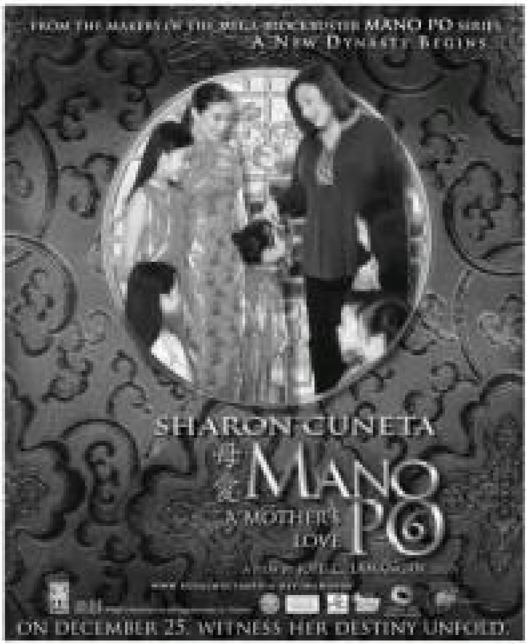
JERICHO Rosales and Kristine Hermosa: No chance to get back together.

They hug, kiss a lot

By Marinel R. Cruz

[illegible]

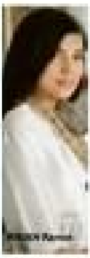

THE #1 MOVIE WORLDWIDE
"You'll LAUGH, you'll CRY, you'll SWOON."
new moon
2ND WEEK
ONE MONTH ENGAGEMENT ONLY!!!
NO EXTENSIONS due to the Metro Manila Film Festival


FROM THE MAKERS OF THE MEGA-BLOCKBUSTER MANO PO SERIES
A NEW DYNASTY BEGINS
SHARON CUNETA
MANO PO 8
A MOTHER'S LOVE
ON DECEMBER 25, WITNESS HER DESTINY UNFOLD.


Regalo namin sa
inyo ngayong Pasko!
SHAKE RATTLE & ROLL 11
siguradong mapapasigaw kayo sa
aming sorpresa...
An official entry for Metro Manila Film Festival


At The Cinemas
GLORIETTA 4
GREENBELT 1
GREENBELT 3
ALABANG TOWN CENTER
TRINOMA
MARKET! MARKET!
AYALA CENTER CEBU
MARQUEE
Ayala Malls
two lovers
EXCLUSIVE
NOW SHOWING AT GLORIETTA 4 & GREENBELT 3 CINEMAS
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"ONE OF THE BEST FILMS OF 2009"
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AYALA CENTER CEBU
BONIFACIO HIGH STREET
MARKET! MARKET!
TRINOMA
ONSTAGE
Electro Maniacs
The Legend Lives On
December 7 · 6:30pm
Glorietta Activity Center

May all these hopes and wishes come true



Dingdong Dantes

Luke Mejares

Willie Nepomuceno

Rhian Ramos

WISH LIST

Vilma Santos

Ogie Alcasid

A wholesome sitcom

CLICK!

'Amazing Race' last leg

Cleveland in town





"The Cleveland Show"

Alien invasion

Hollywood conquest

Lea Salonga performs 'Your Songs'



SHOW TIME

Manchester and Papin

World Pyro Olympics

Tomorrow

10 Grammy nods for Beyonce

Fierce competition